

The open session emergency meeting of the Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers and Speech-Language Pathologists was held on March 1, 2021, teleconference. The meeting came to order at 6:08 p.m.

**Members Present for Quorum**

Dr. Stacey Samuels Cole, AUD  
Ms. Carolyn Stine, SLP  
Mr. James Sciabarrasi, Sr., HAD  
Dr. Tinita Kearney, SLP  
Dr. Tam Nhu Nguyen, MD  
Ms. Ellen Stein, CON  
Mr. John Rouse, CON  
Ms. Jill Silverman, SLP  
Mr. Kim Keller, HAD  
Dr. Barbara McLendon, AUD

**Staff Present**

Dr. Candace Robinson, Executive Director  
Bethan Haaga, AAG, Board Counsel  
Zoann Mouzone, Adm. Spec III  
Oluremi Dean, Dis. & Comp. Officer

**Absent Members**

Monica Wright, Off. Sec III  
Dr. Jennifer Mertes, AUD  
Mr. Richard Brisbane, HAD  
Dr. Carrie Nieman, MD

**Speakers/Visitors**

Ms. Susan Adams, Legal Counsel for ASHA  
Dr. Lynn Williams, ASHA President  
Ms. C'Rai Weeden Shannon, MSHA President  
Dr. Angela Mezzomo, MSHA Co-Policy Chair  
Ms. Telara Varata, SLP  
Ms. Niki Runge, Music Therapy State Task Force  
Ms. Judy Simpson, Director of Government Relations with the American Music Therapists Association (AMTA)  
Ms. CJ Shiloh, AMTA's Regional Government Relations Chair and Maryland State Task Force member

**Review and Approval of the Agenda – March 1, 2021**

Ms. Stine made a motion to approve the agenda with amendments. Ms. Cole will be acting as Board Chair. Mr. Keller seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**Regulatory Review**

**SB 82/HB 233 – State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers & Speech-Language Pathologists- Maryland Music Therapists Act.**

Stakeholders were invited to speak in open session to express their opinions and concerns regarding the Boards support to the Maryland Music Therapists Act. Speakers were granted 3 minutes to voice their concerns. The Bill has passed in both the House and the Senate and has crossed over to the opposite chamber. MSHA and ASHA have sent letters of concerns to

legislators to prevent the bill from passing into law. Ms. Cole also suggested establishing a working group to determine the regulations for Music Therapists in the event the bill does in fact become law. The working group would also include stakeholders. Board members were able to hear from each speaker and voted on the following:

Ms. Stine made a motion to amend the bill to remove lines 5-8 on page 10. Dr. Kearney seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Dr. Kearney made a motion to amend the bill to revise the language on page 9 lines 7-9 to state that Music Therapists will treat an individual with a communication disorder and not a communication disorder. Ms. Stine seconded the motion. Ms. Silverman abstained. The vote was unanimous.

Ms. Silverman made a motion to rescind the Board's support of the bill as written and to find a sponsor to bring the proposed amendments to the floor. The vote was unanimous.

**Executive Director Report – None**

**Correspondence & F.Y.I - None**

**Next Board Meeting – March 18, 2021**

**Adjournment**

Ms. Keller made a motion to adjourn the emergency regular session of the Board meeting. Ms. Stein seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The motion passed. The regular emergency session meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stacey Samuels Cole, Au.D.  
Board Vice Chair